Panel Presses Probe of Plots Against Sukarno and Duvalier

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The Senate intelligence committee is continuing its investigation of alleged CIA involvement in plots to kill President Sukarno of Indonesia and President Francois Duvalier of Haiti.

"Neither case is dead," a spokeswoman said Monday in reference to a footnote in the committee's assassination report which stated that the panel "received some evidence of CIA involvement" in plots against Sukarno and Duvalier.

The evidence was not presented in full in the assassination report released last week because a complete investigation would have forced a delay of several months in publication of the report, according to the spokeswoman.

The cases are now being pursued as part of the panel's inquiry into CIA covert operations abroad, and the findings are expected to be included in the final report scheduled for March, she said.

The footnote in the 346-page interim report said that Richard Bissell, former head of the CIA's clandestine services, "testified that the assassination of Sukarno had been 'contemplated' by the CIA, but that planning had proceeded no farther than identifying an 'asset' who it was believed might be recruited to kill Sukarno." The footnote also quoted Bissell as saying that arms were supplied to dissident groups in Indonesia but were not intended for assassination.

Walter Elder, an aide to ex-CIA Director John McCone, "testified that the director authorized the CIA to furnish arms to dissidents planning the overthrow of Haiti's dictator, Duvalier," according to the footnote. "Elder told the committee that while the assassination of Duvalier was not contemplated by the CIA, the arms were furnished 'to help (the dissidents) take what measures were deemed necessary to replace the government,' and it was realized that Duvalier might be killed in the course of the overthrow."

Duvalier died in 1971 after a long illness attributed to heart disease and diabetes. Sukarno, who was ousted by an anti-Communist coup in 1965, died, apparently of natural causes, in 1969 at the age of 69 after several years under house arrest.

Correction

A Newsday article that appeared in Nov. 15 editions of The Washington Post incorrectly stated that sources who discussed former Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger's letter complaining of alleged Soviet SALT violations had actually seen the letter.

In fact, the sources had not seen the letter but had been informed of its contents and discussed it in detail with the reporter. An editing change in New York resulted in the error.